JOURNAL

of the

UNITED NATIONS

WEDNESDAY, 1 DECEMBER 1999 No. 1999/230

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Wednesday, 1 December 1999

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-fourth session

10 a.m. 68th PLENARY MEETING General Assembly Hall

1. The situation in the Middle East [43]:

   (a) Reports of the Secretary-General (A/54/457, A/54/495)

   (b) Draft resolutions (A/54/L.40, A/54/L.41)

2. Question of Palestine [44]:

   (a) Report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (A/54/35)

   (b) Report of the Secretary-General (A/54/457)

   (c) Draft resolutions (A/54/L.42, A/54/L.43, A/54/L.44, A/54/L.45)

(continued overleaf)

Announcement

The monthly tentative forecast has been made available to Member States in accordance with the Notes by the President of the Security Council dated 27 July 1993 (S/26176) and 30 April 1998 (S/1998/354). In accordance with the aforementioned decisions, copies of the tentative forecast have been placed in the delegations' boxes and may be collected at the delegations' "pick-up area".

3 p.m. 69th PLENARY MEETING General Assembly Hall

1. Reduction of military budgets: report of the First Committee (A/54/551) [64]

2. Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament: report of the First Committee (A/54/552) [65]

3. Question of Antarctica: report of the First Committee (A/54/553) [66]

4. Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements: report of the First Committee (A/54/554) [67]

5. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification: report of the First Committee (A/54/555) [68]

6. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace: report of the First Committee (A/54/556) [69]

7. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone Treaty: report of the First Committee (A/54/557) [70]

8. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security: report of the First Committee (A/54/558) [71]

9. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament: report of the First Committee (A/54/559) [72]

10. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East: report of the First Committee (A/54/560) [73]

11. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons: report of the First Committee (A/54/561) [74]

12. Prevention of an arms race in outer space: report of the First Committee (A/54/562) [75]

13. General and complete disarmament: report of the First Committee (A/54/563) [76]

14. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly [77]:

    (a) Report of the First Committee (A/54/564)

    (b) Amendments (A/54/L.39)

15. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session: report of the First Committee (A/54/565) [78]

16. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East: report of the First Committee (A/54/566) [79]

17. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects: report of the First Committee (A/54/567) [80]

18. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region: report of the First Committee (A/54/568) [81]

19. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco): report of the First Committee (A/54/569) [82]

20. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction: report of the First Committee (A/54/570) [83]

21. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security: report of the First Committee (A/54/571) [84]

22. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty: report of the First Committee (A/54/572) [85]

Committees

SECOND COMMITTEE

10 a.m. — 44th meeting — Conference Room 1

1. Macroeconomic policy questions [97]

   (c) Trade and development

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.37 and L.56

   (d) Science and technology for development

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.4 and L.48

2. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation [99]

   (c) Women in development

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.21 and L.52

   (d) Human resources development

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.10 and L.57

   (e) International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.11 and L.53

3. Environment and sustainable development [100]

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.7 and L.51

   (a) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.14 and L.58

   (c) Convention on Biological Diversity

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.15 and L.55

   (d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.18 and L.54

   (f) Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.23 and L.50

4. Operational activities for development [101]

   (b) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.6 and L.49

5. Report of the Economic and Social Council (A/54/520)

Morning*-1 p.m. — informal consultations (closed) — Conference Room 1

Informal consultations under the Chairmanship of Mr. Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.13 (*item 99 (b)*), A/C.2/54/L.27 (*item 98 (a)*), A/C.2/54/L.34 (*item 98 (b)*), A/C.2/54/L.35 (*item 98 (b)*) and resolution 17/1 of the Commission on Human Settlements (*item 99 (b)*)

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* Immediately following the adjournment of the 44th meeting of the Committee.

3 p.m. — 45th meeting — Conference Room 1

Environment and sustainable development [100]

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.16 and L.61

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.22 and L.59

(f) Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Action on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.60

Afternoon*- 6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 1

1. Informal consultations under the Chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Roble Olhaye (Djibouti), Chairman of the Committee on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.8 (*item 100 (e)*)

2. Informal consultations under the Chairmanship of Mr. Giovanni Brauzzi (Italy), Vice-Chairman of the Committee on draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.19 (*item 104*) and A/C.2/54/L.38 *(item 97 (b))*

3. Informal consultations under the Chairmanship of Mr. Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.20 (*item 99 (a)*)

4. Informal consultations under the Chairmanship of Mr. Daúl Matute (Peru), Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.17 (*item 100)*

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* Immediately following the adjournment of the 45th meeting of the Committee.

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 121 (Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 (A/54/6/Rev.1, Vols. I, II and III, A/54/7, A/54/16, A/C.5/54/18, A/C.5/54/19, A/53/833, A/C.5/54/20, A/C.5/54/16, A/54/643, A/C.5/54/15, A/C.5/54/27, A/C.5/54/17, A/C.5/54/21, A/53/955, A/C.5/54/25, A/53/794, A/C.5/54/14, A/C.5/51/57 and A/52/7/Add.2))

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 125 (Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (A/54/11))

6.30 p.m.- 9.30 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 121 (Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 (A/54/6/Rev.1, Vols. I, II and III, A/54/7, A/54/16, A/C.5/54/18, A/C.5/54/19, A/53/833, A/C.5/54/20, A/C.5/54/16, A/54/643, A/C.5/54/15, A/C.5/54/27, A/C.5/54/17, A/C.5/54/21, A/53/955, A/C.5/54/25, A/53/794, A/C.5/54/14, A/C.5/51/57 and A/52/7/Add.2))

9.30 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 124 (Pattern of Conferences (A/54/32, A/54/176, A/54/208, A/54/221, A/54/262, A/C.5/54/28, A/53/833, A/53/919 and Corr.1 (French only), and Add.1 and Corr.1 (Russian only), and Add.2 and Corr.1 (French only), A/54/7, A/52/1000, A/52/7, A/53/257, A/51/946, A/52/685, A/53/16 and A/53/669))

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PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

Third session

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 6

Informal consultations on the rules of procedure and evidence (Parts 9 and 10 of the Statute)

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 6

Informal consultations on elements of crimes

WORKING GROUP ON ELEMENTS OF CRIMES

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.	Conference Room 2

WORKING GROUP ON RULES OF PROCEDURE AND EVIDENCE RELATED TO PARTS 9 AND 10 OF THE STATUTE

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	Conference Room 2

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

Subjects

1. Draft report
2. Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/54/L.36: International Civilian Mission in Haiti/International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti
3. Internal and external printing practices at the Organization
4. Rental of the United Nations premises by press and other entities
5. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of the fifty-first session: Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.7/Rev.1

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Informal consultations on agenda item 24

The delegation of Greece invites all delegations to informal consultations on the draft resolution on "Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin", to be held *today*, 1 December 1999, at 11 a.m. in Conference Room A.

Informal consultations on agenda item 20 (a)

The delegation of Sweden invites all delegations to informal consultations on the draft resolution on "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance to the United Nations", to be held *today*, 1 December 1999, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 3.

Informal consultations on agenda item 39

There will be a meeting of co-sponsors of the General Assembly draft resolution on the "Code of Democratic Conduct" under agenda item 39 (Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies) *today*, 1 December 1999, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 9.

Informal consultation on agenda item 20 (b)

The delegation of Ukraine, on behalf of co-sponsors, invites all interested delegations to informal consultations on the draft resolution on the economic assistance to the Eastern European States affected by the recent developments on the territory of the former Yugoslavia, to be held *today*, 1 December 1999, at 4.30 p.m. in Conference Room 9.

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Bureau of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" will hold informal consultations *today*, 1 December 1999, at 10 a.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber. The informal consultations will focus on the basic structure of the outcome of the session, as well as modalities for participation by non-governmental organizations. Further consultations will be held on Thursday, 2 December, at 10 a.m., and on Friday, 3 December 1999, at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

The announcements in this section are reproduced as received. The designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Wednesday, 1 December 1999

ARAB GROUP OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

9 a.m.-10 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room A

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WESTERN AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS)

1.30 p.m.-2.30 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 2

GROUP OF 77
(on Fifth Committee matters)

1.45 p.m.-2.45 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 5

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT:

COORDINATING BUREAU

3 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Economic and Social Council Chamber

GROUP OF 77 OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
(coordination meeting: financing for development (A/C.2/54/L.25); and all other pending issues)

6 p.m.-8 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 9

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The Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations will conduct a consultation on the evolving relationship between non-governmental organizations and the United Nations, *today*, 1 December 1999, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Conference Room 7. Members of delegations, Secretariat staff and representatives of non-governmental organizations are invited to attend.

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Announcement

As from Wednesday, 1 December 1999, and for the rest of the month, the Presidency of the Security Council will conduct informal briefings on the current work of the Council for Member States of the United Nations which are non-members of the Council daily, except on days on which no informal consultations are scheduled. The briefings will take place immediately following the adjournment of the informal consultations, in the Press Briefing Room (S-226).

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Announcement

Recorded information about previously unscheduled meetings and consultations of the whole of the Security Council may be obtained by calling (212) 963-8530.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, 2 December 1999

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-fourth session

Committees

SECOND COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	46th meeting	Conference Room 3
Morning*	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 3
3 p.m.	47th meeting	Conference Room 2
Afternoon**	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 2

* Following the adjournment of the 46th meeting of the Second Committee.

** Following the adjournment of the 47th meeting of the Second Committee.

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
3 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
6.30 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
9.30 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (item 20)

Informal consultations on draft proposals under item 20 and its sub-items will be conducted by H.E. Mr. Jørgen Bøjer (Denmark) on Thursday, 2 December 1999, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 7.

Informal consultations on agenda item 35

The delegation of Finland, on behalf of the European Union, invites all interested delegations to informal consultations on the European Union draft resolution on "Assistance in mine action" on Thursday, 2 December 1999, at approximately 4 p.m. (right after the informal consultations on draft proposals under item 20 conducted by H.E. Mr. Jørgen Bøjer (Denmark)), in Conference Room 7.

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SECOND COMMITTEE

Briefing

There will be a briefing by H.E. Mr. Bagher Asadi (Islamic Republic of Iran), Coordinator of the open-ended informal consultations of the General Assembly on the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements (A/53/463), on Thursday, 2 December 1999, at 1.15 p.m. in Conference Room 2. The Coordinator will brief delegations on his report on these consultations which can be retrieved from the Web Site of the Iranian Mission at the following address: http://www.un.int/iran (Second Committee - Statements).

Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff and representatives of non-governmental organizations are invited to attend.

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The 1999 organizational session of the Disarmament Commission will take place on Thursday, 2 December 1999, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 1. All Member States are invited to attend.

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COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES

The Committee on Conferences will hold its 426th meeting on Thursday, 2 December 1999, from 6 to 6.30 p.m. in Conference Room 8, to review a proposal affecting the draft calendar of conferences and meetings for 2000-2001 in accordance with paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 35/10 A (A/AC.172/1999/CRP.11).

In accordance with the procedure established by the Committee on Conferences at its 423rd meeting, on 1 September 1999, as reflected in paragraphs 172 to 175 of A/54/32, non-members who wish to participate as observers are invited to send a request in writing to the Secretary of the Committee on Conferences (fax: (212) 963-7405).

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Economic and Social Council, to consider all outstanding matters, will take place on Thursday, 9 December 1999, at 10.30 a.m. Informal consultations on pending issues will take place under the chairmanship of the President of the Council, H.E. Mr. F. Paolo Fulci (Italy), on Monday, 6 December, at 3 p.m. The conference room will be announced.

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The Technical Subgroup of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics will meet, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Percy Metsing Mangoaela (Lesotho), on Tuesday, 7 December 1999, at 10 a.m. sharp in Conference Room 2.

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United Nations Development Programme

The United Nations Development Programme will hold informal consultations on the *Human Development Report 2000* on Friday, 10 December 1999, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Room 7. Interested delegations are invited to attend.

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETING OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

The announcements in this section are reproduced as received. The designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

There will be meetings of the Arab Group of the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court until 3 December 1999, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in Conference Room A.

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There will be a meeting of the Arab Group *(at the ambassadorial level)* on Thursday, 2 December 1999, at 10.30 a.m. in Conference Room A.

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Briefings

A briefing for non-governmental organizations (NGOs), entitled "Accessibility for All for the Millennium", organized by the NGO Section of the Department of Public Information (DPI), will take place on Thursday, 2 December 1999, from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon in Conference Room 2. The briefing will commemorate the International Day of Disabled Persons. Members of permanent missions, representatives of non- governmental organizations and the media are invited to attend.

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The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is organizing a briefing on the Security Council for members of the Council. The course will be held from Monday, 6 to Wednesday, 15 December 1999.

A letter on this subject, including an information note and a nomination form, was addressed to the permanent missions of all States that will be members of the Council in the year 2000. For further information, please contact Ms. Maud Graham (room DC1-603, tel.: (212) 963-9196).

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Workshops

The first in a series of DPI/NGO Communications Workshops entitled "Funding Partnerships at the United Nations" and "Fundamentals of Grant Writing", organized by the NGO Section of the Department of Public Information (DPI), will be held on Thursday, 2 December 1999, from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. in Conference Room 8. Speakers will include representatives of the United Nations system and NGOs. Participation is by registration only. More information can be obtained on the United Nations Web Site at www.un.org/MoreInfo/ngolink/dpingo.htm or by calling (212) 963-7078 or 963-7709.

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The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is organizing, jointly with the German Management Academy (DMAN) and with support from the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE), the second session in the series entitled "Public-Private Partnerships for Sustainable Development". Session II will be on "Financing for Development Through Public-Private Partnership." The workshop will be held on the following dates: Tuesday, 7 December 1999, from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.; and Wednesday, 8 December, from 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.

A letter on this subject, including an information note, a nomination form and a draft programme, was addressed to all the permanent missions. For further information, please contact Ms. Maud Graham (room DC1-603; tel.: (212) 963-9196).

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There will be a technical workshop, organized by the Department for Disarmament Affairs, in collaboration with the Program on Security and Development (SAND) of the Monterrey Institute of International Studies (MIIS) and the Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC), on Tuesday, 7 December 1999, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Conference Room 7, to discuss a draft Light Weapons Field Guide for Development and Humanitarian Relief Workers being developed by SAND and BICC. The workshop will be chaired by the Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, Mr. Jayantha Dhanapala. Members of permanent missions and representatives of non-governmental organizations are invited to attend. Copies of the draft Field Guide may be retrieved from the office of Mr. David Biggs, Conventional Arms Branch, Department for Disarmament Affairs (room S-3170G; tel.: (212) 963-5598).

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Special presentation

There will be a presentation on "Social Policy in a Development Context" by Mr. Thandika Mkandawire, Director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), on Friday, 3 December 1999, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room 8. The meeting, to be chaired by H.E. Mr. Cristian Maquieira (Chile), is organized by the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. All interested members of delegations and Secretariat staff are invited to attend. For further information, please contact Ms. Fei Cheng (tel.: (212) 963-7882).

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Tuesday, 30 November 1999

SECURITY COUNCIL

4072nd (resumed) meeting

Role of the Security Council in the prevention of armed conflicts

Upon resumption of the meeting, the Council heard statements by the representatives of Egypt, Liechtenstein, Zambia, Nigeria, New Zealand, Bangladesh, Senegal, Norway, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Ukraine, Iraq and Croatia.

The President made a statement in his capacity as the representative of Slovenia.

4073rd meeting

Role of the Security Council in the prevention of armed conflicts

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The President made a statement on behalf of the Council (S/PRST/1999/34).

4074th meeting

The situation concerning Haiti

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (S/1999/908)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (S/1999/1184)

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The President, with the consent of the Council, invited the representatives of Haiti and Venezuela, at their request, to participate in the discussion of the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

The President drew attention to the text of a draft resolution contained in document S/1999/1202, which had been submitted by Argentina, Brazil, Canada, France, the United States of America and Venezuela.

The Council began its consideration of the item and heard a statement by the representative of Haiti.

The Council then proceeded to the vote on the draft resolution (S/1999/1202) before it.

Before the vote, a statement was made by the representative of the Russian Federation.

Decision: The draft resolution (S/1999/1202) received 14 votes in favour, none against with one abstention (Russian Federation), and was adopted as resolution 1277 (1999).

Following the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, the United States, Brazil, China and Canada.

4075th meeting

Date of an election to fill a vacancy in the International Court of Justice (S/1999/1197)

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The President made a statement in which he drew the attention to the text of a draft resolution (S/1999/1205), which had been prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

The Council then proceeded to take a decision on the draft resolution contained in document S/1999/1205.

Decision: The draft resolution was adopted without a vote as resolution 1278 (1999).

4076th meeting

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Second report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Preliminary Deployment in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/1999/1116 and Corr.1)

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The President, with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, at his request, to participate in the discussion of the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

The President drew attention to the text of a draft resolution contained in document S/1999/1207, which had been prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

The Council then proceeded to the vote on the draft resolution (S/1999/1207) before it.

Decision: The draft resolution (S/1999/1207) received 15 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, and was adopted unanimously as resolution 1279 (1999).

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-fourth session

66th plenary meeting

Question of Palestine [44]:

(a) Report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (A/54/35)

(b) Report of the Secretary-General (A/54/457)

(c) Draft resolutions (A/54/L.42, A/54/L.43, A/54/L.44, A/54/L.45)

The General Assembly continued its consideration of agenda item 44.

Statements were made by the representatives of the United Arab Emirates, Cuba, India, Burkina Faso, Bangladesh, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Sri Lanka, Guyana, Pakistan, Namibia, Indonesia, Botswana and the United Republic of Tanzania.

The situation in the Middle East [43]:

(a) Reports of the Secretary-General (A/54/457, A/54/495)

(b) Draft resolutions (A/54/L.40, A/54/L.41)

Statements were made by the representatives of Finland (on behalf of the European Union and of Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Rumania, Slovakia and Slovenia), Saudi Arabia, the United States, Malaysia and Nigeria.

The representative of Egypt made a statement in the course of which he introduced draft resolutions A/54/L.40 and A/54/L.41.

The representative of Kuwait made a statement.

Programme of work

The General Assembly was informed that agenda item 46 (Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa) would be taken up on Wednesday, 8 December, in the morning, and that Open-ended Informal Consultations of the Plenary on Agenda Item 49(b) (the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations) would be held in Conference Room 1, on Tuesday, 14 December, in the morning.

67th plenary meeting

The situation in the Middle East [43]:

(a) Reports of the Secretary-General (A/54/457, A/54/495)

(b) Draft resolutions (A/54/L.40, A/54/L.41)

Statements were made by the representatives of Israel, Yemen, Ukraine, Cyprus and Cuba.

The observer of Palestine made a statement.

Statements were made by the representatives of Australia, Mauritania, Turkey, Brunei Darussalam, Ghana, Belarus, India, Peru, Japan, Jordan, Senegal, Norway and the Russian Federation.

Statements in the exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United Arab Emirates.

Programme of work

The General Assembly was informed that on Monday, 6 December 1999 in the morning, it would consider under agenda item 8, the third report of the General Committee (A/54/250/Add.2) and two notes by the Secretary-General (A/54/236 and A/54/624). The Assembly would also take up agenda item 167 (Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization). The Assembly was also informed that a draft resolution would be issued under agenda item 167 as document A/54/L.48. The Assembly was further informed that draft resolution A/54/L.5 and the amendment thereto contained in document A/54/L.10 had been withdrawn.

Committees

FIFTH COMMITTEE 40th meeting

Human resources management [164]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

Statements were made by the representatives of Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Togo, Bangladesh, the Russian Federation, the United States, Ethiopia, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Japan, Thailand, Croatia and Cuba.

The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management replied to questions raised.

The Committee thus concluded its general discussion on this agenda item.

The Chairman informed the Committee that informal consultations on this agenda item would be announced at later date.

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations [118]

Human resources management [164]

The Committee resumed its consideration of these agenda items.

Gratis personnel

Statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Cuba, the United States and Pakistan.

The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management made a statement.

The Committee thus concluded its general discussion on the question of gratis personnel.

The Chairman informed the Committee that informal consultations on this question would be announced at later date.

Programme planning [120]

The Committee began its consideration of this agenda item.

The Chairman of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, H.E. Mr.Tommo Monthe (Cameroon), introduced the relevant parts of that Committee's report (A/54/16).

The reports of the Secretary-General were contained in A/54/89, A/54/117, A/54/125 and A/C.5/54/12.

In the absence of speakers, the Committee concluded its general discussion of this agenda item.

The Chairman informed the Committee that informal consultations on this agenda item would be announced at later date.

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 [121]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

Revised estimates arising out of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions replied to questions raised at the 39th meeting of the Fifth Committee held on Friday, 19 November 1999.

Statements were made by the representatives of Pakistan, Algeria and the United Republic of Tanzania.

The Chairman made a statement.

Pattern of conferences [124]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The Assistant Secretary-General for General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services introduced the note by the Secretary-General on career development in language services - measures aimed at reducing excessive vacancy rates at some duty stations: elements of a system of managed assignments (A/C.5/54/28).

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee agreed to consider the note in the context of the informal consultations on agenda item 124.

Organization of work

Statements were made by the representatives of Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), China, the United Republic of Tanzania and Cuba.

The Chairman also made a statement.

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC,
SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS
Twenty-first session
United Nations Office at Geneva

TUESDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 1999

50th and 51st (closed) meetings

Consideration of reports [6]

(a) Reports submitted by States parties in accordance with articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

The Committee considered and adopted concluding observations on Bulgaria and began its consideration of the concluding observations on Argentina.

SIGNATURES, RATIFICATIONS, ETC.

[MULTILATERAL TREATIES DEPOSITED WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL]

Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity. Bangkok, 27 March 1976

Accession: Fiji (29 November 1999)*

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* Date of receipt of the relevant documents.

Amendment to article 11, paragraph 2 (a), of the Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity. Bangkok, 13 November 1981

Participation: Fiji (29 November 1999)*

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects. Geneva, 10 October 1980

Accession: Senegal (29 November 1999)*

Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996) and Protocol III annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects. Geneva, 3 May 1996

Consent to be bound: Senegal (29 November 1999)*

Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996) annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects. Geneva, 3 May 1996

Consent to be bound: Slovakia (30 November 1999)*

Additional Protocol to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol IV, entitled Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons). Vienna, 13 October 1995

Consent to be bound: Slovakia (30 November 1999)*

* Date of receipt of the relevant documents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Background briefings

In addition to the daily noon press briefing given by the Spokesman for the Secretary-General, all background briefings given to the press may now be viewed by delegations in Viewing Room 4, which is located in the corridor connecting the Viennese Cafe with the public concourse.

* * *

International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

Exhibit

The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations, will present a Palestinian art exhibit entitled "Follow the Star: Images from the Palestinian City of Bethlehem at the New Millennium", in observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. The exhibit will be displayed until Sunday, 12 December 1999, at the Public Lobby of the General Assembly Building.

* * *

World AIDS Day

An observance of World AIDS Day will be held *today*, 1 December 1999, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 4. The theme is "The Children Left Behind," children who have been orphaned by the AIDS-related deaths of one or both parents. Speakers include the President of the General Assembly, the Deputy Secretary-General, United States First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, H.M. Queen Noor Al Hussein of Jordan and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Harry Belafonte. Three children orphaned by AIDS, from the United States, Uganda and Thailand, will tell their stories to Children's Express Reporter Alexandra Berke, followed by two panels: "Child care, Child welfare and clinical issues" and "Finance and funding issues". The observance is co-sponsored by Department of Public Information (DPI), the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, Inc. (BLCA), the Magic Johnson Foundation, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Bank, the White House Office of National AIDS Policy and the Global Health Council. Delegations and accredited media are welcome; Secretariat staff and NGOs will be admitted, space permitting, to the public gallery.

* * *

Chairmen of regional groups

The following information regarding the chairmanship of the regional groups for the month of December 1999 has been communicated to the Secretariat:

African States:
Cameroun
H.E. Mr. Martin Belinga-Eboutou

Asian States:
Bangladesh
H.E. Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury

Eastern European States:
Czech Republic
H.E. Mr. Vladimir Galuška

Latin American and Caribbean States:
Saint Lucia
H.E. Mr. Julian Robert Hunte

Western European and other States:
Luxembourg
H.E. Mr. Hubert Wurth

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EDITOR

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Office opens at 4.30 p.m.

Published at Headquarters, New York ,
by the Department of General Assembly Affairs
and Conference Services.

99-36461